



New Mexico Agricultural
Statistics Service

Weekly Ag Update

Issue 52-21

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May 20, 2002

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Crop Weather

Special Survey Message

Quarterly Farm Labor

Available on internet at: www.nass.usda.gov/nm OR by e-mail: (call 1-800-530-8810 for information)

CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 2002

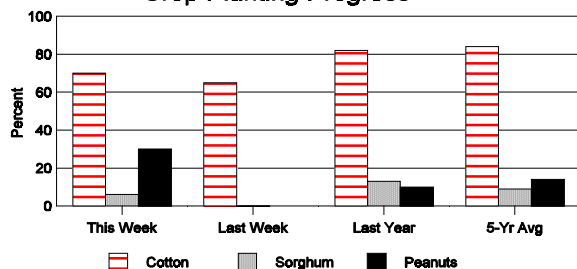
NEW MEXICO: There were 7 days suitable for field work. Wind damage was 37% light and 7% moderate, with no damage to 56% of the crops. The Pecos river on the east side of the state is extremely limited for irrigation and needs rain to meet summer water demand. Cotton was 70% planted and corn was 83% planted with 62% of the corn crop emerged; both crops were in mostly fair to good condition. Chile was in fair to excellent condition. Alfalfa was listed in mostly fair to good condition, with the 1st cutting 66% complete. Wheat was in mostly very poor to fair condition with 89% headed. Lettuce and onions were in mostly good to excellent condition. Peanuts were reported at 30% planted. Ranchers continue to supplemental feed and water as they watch the ground water table continue to decline with the lack of rainfall. Pasture and range feed conditions were listed as 43% very poor, 43% poor, 13% fair, and 1% good.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

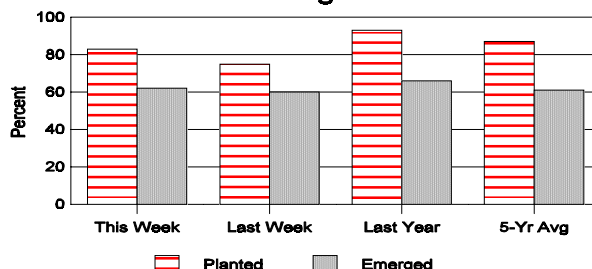
CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
PLANTED	Cotton	70	65	82	84
	Peanuts	30	1/	10	14
	Sorghum	6	0	13	9
	Corn	83	75	93	87
EMERGED	Corn	62	60	76	61
HEADED	Wheat	89	86	90	86
HARVESTED	Lettuce	60	33	76	76

1/ Not Available.

Crop Planting Progress



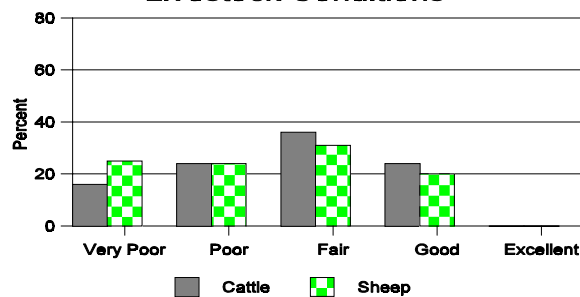
Corn Progress



CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

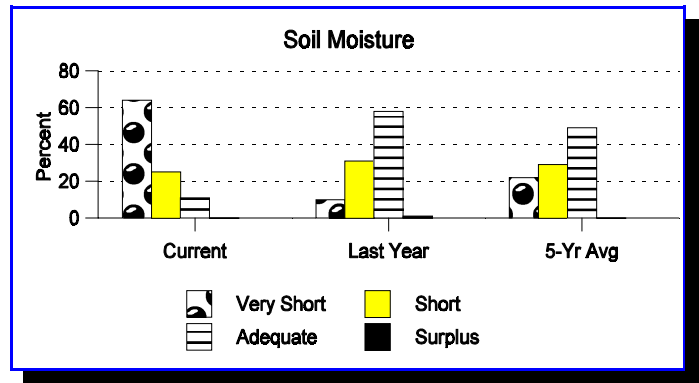
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	5	14	49	26	6
Apples	50	50	--	--	--
Chile	--	2	23	58	17
Corn	--	--	56	36	8
Cotton	--	5	55	28	12
Lettuce	--	--	--	35	65
Onions	--	--	5	50	45
Wheat (All)	45	18	26	10	1
Cattle	16	24	36	24	--
Sheep	25	24	31	20	--

Livestock Conditions



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	70	27	3	--
Northeast	62	38	--	--
Southwest	56	19	25	--
Southeast	67	13	20	--
State	64	25	11	--
State-Last Year	10	31	58	1
State-5-Yr Avg.	22	29	49	--



WEATHER SUMMARY

Two storm systems brought spotty, light rain to the state during the week, but less than half the reporting stations measured precipitation. Greatest totals measured included .39" at Moriarty, .32" at Tor C, and .27" at Socorro. Temperatures for the week were generally near normal in the east but well above normal in the west. The statewide average was 3 degrees above normal but some spots in the northwest were as much as 9 degrees above normal (Farmington and Johnson Ranch).

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS MAY 13-19, 2002

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	05/13 05/19	05/01 05/19	Normal May	01/01 05/19	Normal Jan-May
Carlsbad	71.6	98	49	0.00	0.00	1.16	2.54	2.65
Tatum	65.8	92	42	0.00	0.00	2.09	4.50	4.14
Roswell	69.2	96	49	0.00	0.00	1.24	3.53	3.23
Clayton	63.1	86	40	T	0.03	1.99	0.83	4.03
Clovis	61.9	91	5	0.00	0.00	1.87	2.07	4.17
Roy	56.1	80	34	0.00	0.00	1.84	0.42	3.98
Tucumcari	66.6	93	37	0.02	0.02	1.49	1.83	3.49
Chama	52.5	77	25	0.00	0.00	1.11	2.01	7.72
Johnson Ranch	61.1	83	30	0.00	0.00	0.62	0.88	3.09
Capulin	57.1	81	28	0.14	0.14	2.30	1.80	5.16
Las Vegas	---	---	---	T	0.03	1.68	0.49	3.84
Los Alamos	58.9	76	38	0.00	0.00	1.17	1.00	5.05
Raton	57.9	83	30	0.02	0.03	2.27	0.76	5.17
Santa Fe	61.4	82	37	T	0.00	1.22	1.24	4.09
Red River	42.6	71	---	T	0.00	1.77	3.07	7.52
Farmington	66.5	87	40	T	0.00	0.67	0.51	3.15
Gallup	61.6	84	34	0.06	0.06	0.51	1.05	3.74
Grants	60.5	83	30	0.06	0.06	0.53	1.61	2.48
Silver City	63.1	83	41	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.00	4.20
Quemado	57.7	83	29	0.10	0.10	0.50	0.72	3.45
Albuquerque	68.4	85	49	0.02	0.02	0.50	0.80	2.46
Carrizozo	65.0	86	42	T	0.00	0.62	1.93	2.72
Gran Quivera	62.6	84	39	T	0.00	0.82	0.65	3.70
Moriarty	62.9	84	41	0.39	0.39	0.97	1.55	3.07
Ruidoso	55.8	72	37	0.16	0.16	0.87	1.60	5.11
Socorro	67.2	89	45	0.27	0.27	0.52	0.63	1.93
Alamogordo	71.0	90	54	0.00	0.00	0.45	0.00	2.38
Animas	74.1	93	54	0.00	0.00	0.18	1.28	2.04
Deming	71.8	91	48	0.06	0.06	0.19	1.30	1.73
T or C	70.9	90	50	0.32	0.32	0.49	0.82	1.89
Las Cruces	72.5	94	50	0.00	0.00	0.29	1.29	1.55

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Corrections

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

HOW AGRICULTURAL SURVEYS Benefit YOU!

2002 Mid-Year Agricultural Surveys
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Plenty of unanswered questions surround New Mexico agriculture in 2002.
To answer these questions, the USDA is gearing up to conduct the 2002 mid-Year Agricultural surveys
June Quarterly Crops-Stocks Survey, June Area Survey (Annually)
and the July Cattle and July Sheep Survey (semi-annual)

SUPPORT AND PROMOTE NEW MEXICO'S AGRICULTURE

Cooperate when asked to give information. *(Remember, individual information is kept strictly confidential.)* Use agricultural statistics to the effectiveness and profitability of your operation.

BENEFITS TO THE CROP FARMER

Crop statistics provide more equal bargaining, with seller and buyer having the same basic facts. Neither has an unfair advantage by collecting his own facts.

Planting intentions reports alert farmers to anticipated shortages or surpluses in time to change their own plans prior to planting.

Grain stocks reports alert producers to the pattern of disappearance and are a tool to help them decide time and method of disposition of their crops.

Crop production forecasts remove elements of surprise, so utilization decisions can be made with greater confidence.

BENEFITS TO THE LIVESTOCK RAISER

Cattle on feed numbers, placements, and marketings provide information on the future direction of cattle markets.

Hog numbers and farrowing intentions reports provide information on the future direction of hog markets.

Crop production forecasts and grain stocks reports provide information on probable future feed costs, which aids in planning future operations.

Inventory numbers of livestock by class and weight indicate the future direction of the industry and are a tool in planning future operations.

Cattle, hog, and sheep reports help stabilize prices by squelching rumors and eliminating surprises on the market.

Livestock statistics provide more equal bargaining, with seller and buyer having the same basic facts. Neither has an unfair advantage by collecting his own facts.

Historic numbers/price relationships help forecast future livestock prices.

BENEFITS TO New Mexico's PRODUCERS

Enables the promoters to sell **New Mexico** products by knowing what is being produced.

Production reports attract buyers from other states and countries.

Agriculture is a leading New Mexico industry—therefore, any information on condition or outlook for agriculture affects many decisions for local and State governments.

State revenue is dependent on strong agriculture, and expenditures must be planned accordingly. Agricultural statistics provide important input in this planning.

Statistics portray the importance of **New Mexico's** agriculture. Particularly important recipients are buyers, processors, and suppliers.

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR

NEW MEXICO: There were 20,000 hired workers on farms and ranches in New Mexico and Arizona (Mountain Region III) during the survey week of April 7-13, 2002. This was 2,000 less workers than the same time in 2001. Farm operators paid workers an average rate of \$8.21 compared to \$7.46 the previous year. This was \$0.62 less than the national rate of \$8.83. Hours worked during the survey week were 46.2 hours, 6 hours more than the national average of 40.2 hours. In New Mexico there were 6.7 days suitable for field work during the survey week. Farm activities in the southern part of the state included planting and irrigating while the northern part of the state was preparing ground for planting and cleaning ditches. Ranch activities included calving, culling and some branding.

UNITED STATES: There were 890,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.83 per hour during the April 2002 survey week, up 52 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.06 per hour, up 45 cents from last April. Livestock workers earned \$8.43 per hour compared with \$8.01 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate was up 44 cents from last year. Number of hours worked averaged 40.2 hours for hired workers during the survey week, unchanged from a year ago.

**Workers on Farms, Hours worked Per Week, and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers,
Selected Regions and U.S., April 2001-2002^{1/}**

	Mountain II ^{2/}		Mountain III ^{3/}		Southern Plains ^{4/}		United States ^{5/}	
	Apr 8-14 2001	Apr 7-13 2002	Apr 8-14 2001	Apr 7-13 2002	Apr 8-14 2001	Apr 7-13 2002	Apr 8-14 2001	Apr 7-13 2002
Workers on Farms	-----Thousands-----							
All Hired Workers	29	25	22	20	77	60	804	890
Hours Worked	-----Hours Per Week-----							
All Hired Workers	41.0	37.7	46.1	46.2	38.6	39.6	40.2	40.2
Workers By Work Type	-----Dollars Per Hour-----							
Field	7.37	8.06	6.92	7.51	7.10	6.92	7.61	8.06
Livestock	7.58	8.58	6.80	8.35	7.71	7.78	8.01	8.43
Field & Livestock	7.44	8.26	6.90	7.71	7.33	7.31	7.71	8.15
All Workers	7.99	8.95	7.46	8.21	7.86	7.95	8.31	8.83

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers. ^{2/} Mountain Region II consists of CO, NV & UT. ^{3/} Mountain Region III consists of AZ & NM. ^{4/} Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. ^{5/} Excludes AK.